



Dismal Swamp State Park

Feel your daily stresses melt away as you cross the historic Dismal Swamp Canal and walk along the 300-foot boardwalk into this geological wonder. Experience firsthand the lush swamp forest and get up close and personal with the wide variety of wildlife. Discover the uniqueness of a million-year-old habitat at the Dismal Swamp State Park.

For the adventurer, there are 16.7 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails. Or, enjoy a leisurely paddle down the Dismal Swamp Canal in your canoe or kayak.

Address: 2294 U.S. 17 North
South Mills, NC 27976
(252) 771-6593 or (252) 771-6582



Elk Knob State Natural Area

Elk Knob State Natural Area is one of the newest additions and is in the process of being developed as a state park. Visit www.ncparks.gov to learn more about the amenities available at this new park.

Address: 5564 Meat Camp Road
Todd, NC 28684
(828) 297-7261



Eno River State Park

Test your skills in a raft or canoe. The spring and fall months often bring swirling rapids to the Eno. Try your luck fishing along the river banks or stroll across the swinging bridge for a hike through the woods. Backpack primitive camping offers refuge from the hustle and bustle of the city.

Address: 6101 Cole Mill Road
Durham, NC 27705
(919) 383-1686



Falls Lake State Recreation Area

Moments away from the hustle and bustle of the Research Triangle, this 12,000-acre lake and 26,000 acres of woodlands offer a variety of activities. Come for the day and bring along your fishing gear and picnic basket. Put your boat in the water. Take a dip in one of the designated swimming areas. Or spend a few days in the family or group campgrounds. B.W. Wells, U.S. 50, Holly Point, Rollingview, Beaverdam, Sandling Beach and Shinleaf, as well as the privately operated Rollingview Marina, will fit the bill no matter what your fancy.

Address: 13304 Creedmoor Road
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 676-1027



Fort Fisher State Recreation Area

Spend the day away from the crowds on a four-mile stretch of undeveloped beach where shell-seekers still find treasures and nesting loggerhead sea turtles still find seclusion. Watch pelicans and other colonial nesting birds swirl and turn with the wind and waves. Licensed four-wheel-drive vehicles may travel on the beach in designated areas for access to excellent surf fishing.

Address: 1000 Loggerhead Road
Kure Beach, NC 28449
(910) 458-5798



Fort Macon State Park

Enjoy all of the sun, sand, sea and history you can soak up in a day. Even Blackbeard the Pirate used to drop by once upon a time. After a day of beach combing, cool off on a tour of the restored fort that stood guard over Beaufort Harbor during the Civil War.

Address: 2300 E. Fort Macon Road,
P.O. Box 127
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512
(252) 726-2295